

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

This Amendment is in response to the Office Action dated February 13, 2006. Claims 1-20 are pending in the present application. Claims 1, 5-8 and 12-15 are rejected. Claims 2-4, 9-11, 16-18 and 20 are objected to. Claims 1, 8 and 15 have been amended to incorporate subject matter deemed allowable in the present application by the Examiner. Claims 17 and 19 have been amended to provide proper dependency. Claims 4, 11 and 16 have been cancelled without prejudice. Claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15 and 17-20 remain pending.

Applicant does not concede that original independent claims 1, 8 and 15 are not patentable and reserves the right to file a continuation application containing such claims should the Applicant desire. Nevertheless, Applicant respectfully submits that the pending claims are now in condition for allowance.

For the reasons set forth more fully below, Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as now presented are allowable. Consequently, reconsideration, allowance, and passage to issue are respectfully requested.

Title

The title has been amended to clearly describe that data is being routed between USB ports. Applicant respectfully submits that no new matter has been presented.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner states,

Claims 2-4, 9-11, 16-18, 20 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant appreciates and acknowledges Examiner's indication of allowability of the above-identified claims. Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 4. Claim 8 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 11. Claim 15 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 16. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 8 and 15 are allowable as now presented. Finally, claims 2, 3, 5-7, 9, 10, 12-15 and 17-20 are allowable since they depend from allowable base claims.

Conclusion

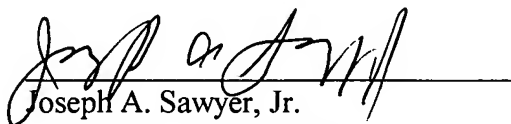
In view of the foregoing, Applicant submits that claims 1-3, 5-10, 12-15 and 17-20 are patentable. Applicant, therefore, respectfully requests reconsideration and allowance of the claims as now presented.

Applicant's attorney believes that this application is in condition for allowance. Should any unresolved issues remain, the Examiner is invited to call Applicant's attorney at the telephone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date


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